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Letter dated 10 January 2013 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

I have the honour to refer to Security Council resolutions 686 (1991), 687 (1991), and 1284 (1999), as well as my thirty-fourth report to the Security Council pursuant to paragraph 14 of resolution 1284 (1999) (S/2012/931). In the report, I viewed the next few months as a crucial confidence-building period between Iraq and Kuwait, and presented several options with respect to the way forward on the mandate of the High-level Coordinator on missing Kuwaiti persons and property.

I would like to inform members of the Council that the activities undertaken under paragraph 14 of resolution 1284 (1999) have led to expenditures amounting to approximately US$ 320,000 from 1 January to 31 December 2012. The funds were provided through transfers from the Escrow Account created pursuant to Security Council resolution 1958 (2010).

As Council members are aware, the objectives of the mandate in paragraph 14 of resolution 1284 (1999) have not been met. I understand that following the High-level Coordinator's last briefing to the Security Council, on 18 December 2012, the Council has not yet pronounced itself on a new way forward on the mandate, nor has it agreed to extend financing.

I remain committed to the implementation of the mandate. Until such time as the Security Council reaches agreement on a way forward that would permit the use of the Escrow Account, I will draw on existing staff and resources in an ad hoc manner to undertake the aforementioned activities to fulfil the mandate in paragraph 14 of resolution 1284 (1999).

I should be grateful if you would bring this letter to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(*Signed*) **BAN** Ki-moon

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